

Message Text

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ACTION AGR-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-08 COME-00 STR-07 TRSE-00
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PASS AGRICULTURE ELECTRONICALLY

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAGR, GE
SUBJ: GDR REPORTS GRAIN DAMAGE AFTER HEAVY RAINS

REF: BERLIN 5130

1. GDR PRESS HAS REPORTED THAT UNUSUALLY HEAVY RAINS WHICH STRUCK MANY REGIONS OF THE GDR AUGUST 8 HAVE RESULTED IN DAMAGE TO THE GDR GRAIN CROP. IN THE MAJOR GRAIN-GROWING REGIONS OF HALLE, LEIPZIG AND DRESDEN (SOUTH-CENTRAL GDR), LODGING OF GRAIN AND FLOODING OF FIELDS HAVE BEEN REPORTED AND AGRICULTURAL WORKERS ARE OUTFITTING COMBINES TO HARVEST LODGED GRAIN AND EQUIPPING MACHINES WITH DOUBLE TIRES TO COMPENSATE FOR THE WET SOIL. HEAVIEST RAINS WERE REPORTED IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN REGIONS OF THE GDR; NORTHERN AREAS HAVE RECEIVED LIGHTER AMOUNTS OF RAIN AND HARVEST OF OILSEEDS RESUMED AUGUST 9 AFTER FIELDS HAD SUFFICIENTLY DRIED. RAINFALL WAS REPORTED TO HAVE VARIED FROM 5-16 CENTIMETERS, WHILE BERLIN AREA RECEIVED SLIGHTLY OVER 12 CENTIMETERS.

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2. WHILE IT IS NOT YET POSSIBLE TO GAUGE THE FULL EXTENT OF THE DAMAGE TO THE GDR GRAIN CROP RESULTING FROM THESE HEAVY RAINS, IT APPEARS CERTAIN THAT RAINS HAVE ADDED A COMPLICATION, ALMOST OVERNIGHT, TO THE GDR'S HARVEST EFFORTS AND HAS PUT TO TEST PREPARATIONS BY AGRICULTURAL AUTHORITIES TO HARVEST, DRY AND STORE GRAIN CROP IN THE EVENT OF INCLEMENT WEATHER. BOLEN

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